

Message Text

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21

ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CPR-01 NSC-05 PA-01 SS-15 USIA-06

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APPROVED BY ARA:MR.DEVINE

ARA/ECA:RWZIMMERMANN

S/S-JHOGANSON

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R 200207Z JUL 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PPDC, AR

SUBJECT: LETTER FROM PRESIDENT FORD TO PRESIDENT VIDELA

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1. THE TEXT OF A JULY 16 LETTER FROM PRESIDENT FORD TO PRESIDENT VIDELA FOLLOWS. THE ORIGINAL WAS POUCHED TO THE EMBASSY JULY 19.

QUOTE. I AM VERY GRATEFUL TO YOUR GOVERNMENT FOR ITS COOPERATION WITH THE UNITED STATES IN BRINGING TO JUSTICE THREE NOTORIOUS NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING FUGITIVES WHO FOUND SANCTUARY IN ARGENTINA FOR MANY YEARS. THE UNITED STATES HAS LONG SOUGHT TO PROSECUTE THEM FOR THEIR PART IN SEVERAL WIDESPREAD CONSPIRACIES TO IMPORT LARGE AMOUNTS OF HEROIN AND COCAINE INTO THE UNITED STATES.

YOUR PROMPT AND EFFECTIVE RESPONSE TO OUR RENEWED REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE IN APPREHENDING THESE NARCOTICS FUGITIVES IS AN INDICATION THAT YOU SHARE THE HIGH PRIORITY WHICH WE ATTACH TO THE INTERNATIONAL EFFORT TO CONTROL ILLICIT
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TRAFFIC IN NARCOTIC DRUGS. THE ACTIVITIES OF NARCOTICS

TRAFFICKERS OF THIS TYPE UNDERMINE THE SOCIAL PEACE, PUBLIC ORDER, AND EVEN THE MORALITY OF A COUNTRY, AND THE EFFORT TO END THEIR INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS REQUIRES THE CLOSE COOPERATION OF ALL GOVERNMENTS.

WE ARE PARTICULARLY GRATEFUL TO YOUR MINISTER OF INTERIOR AND THE MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF WHO WORKED SO TIRELESSLY TO ENSURE THAT THESE FUGITIVES BE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH THE LEGAL REQUIREMENTS OF BOTH OUR COUNTRIES. THEIR DEDICATION AND DILIGENCE HAVE WON THE RESPECT OF ALL CONCERNED.

I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR THE SENTIMENTS EXPRESSED IN YOUR LETTER TO ME IN CONNECTION WITH YOUR NATIONAL DAY AND OUR BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS. IT IS GRATIFYING TO KNOW THAT THE VALUES ON WHICH OUR NATION WAS FOUNDED ARE SHARED BY YOU AND THE PEOPLE OF ARGENTINA. SINCERELY, GERALD R. FORD. UNQUOTE.

2. THE EMBASSY MAY DELIVER THE TEXT TO PRESIDENT VIDELA IMMEDIATELY, OR, AT ITS DISCRETION, AWAIT RECEIPT OF THE ORIGINAL.

3. THE USG DOES NOT PLAN TO PUBLISH THE TEXT OF THE LETTER, BUT WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION IF THE GOA WISHED TO DO SO. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: DRUG CONTROL, DIPLOMATIC NOTES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JMSMITH,JR:JC
Enclosure: n/a
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Errors: N/A
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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